

Drug Policy Advisory Council Meeting
May 14, 2009
Minutes

Voting Council Members Present: Chairman Gary Kendell, Katrina Carter-Larsen, Barb Anderson for Cyndy Erickson, Kevin Frampton, Robert Mahan, Phyllis Blood for Paul Stageberg, Kathy Stone (by phone), Eric Snyder, David Lorenzen (by phone), John Garringer (by phone), Jane Larkin, and Chris Wilson,

Non-Voting Members Present: Capt. Sonya Finch for Col. Michael Jensen.

Guest: Terry Witkowski, Iowa Board of Pharmacy.

Staff: Becky Swift, Susie Sher, Dennis Wiggins, Terry Graham and Becky Bell.

Welcome and introductions

Chairman Kendell called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Council members and guests introduced themselves.

Chairman Kendell congratulated Eric Snyder on his official appointment to the Council and Pam Dettmann for being reappointed for another term.

The minutes of the February 12, 2009 meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve was made by Jane Larkin and seconded by Kevin Frampton. The Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes as submitted.

Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

Terry Witkowski from the Iowa Board of Pharmacy reported that the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PMP) went live on March 26. The Board of Pharmacy is collecting information from Iowa pharmacies regarding Schedule II, III and IV prescriptions that have been dispensed since January 1, 2008. The exceptions are those prescriptions dispensed to patients in long term care and hospice facilities and hospitals.

Prescribers and pharmacies now have access via the Internet regarding their patient's use of these prescription drugs. Registration by prescribers and pharmacies is required before they can access any information. Registered individuals can submit information requests regarding their patients; the information is then sent to them via the (PMP) Web site.

While the program is essentially a health care tool for pharmacists and physicians, it is also available for law enforcement/regulatory agencies that may have a case relating to controlled substance use. Law Enforcement agencies must establish just cause for obtaining the information and then must submit a written request along with a subpoena, warrant or court order on that patient's use or pharmacy dispensing records.

To date, there have been 1,300 approved registrations. About 2% are law enforcement personnel, 36% are pharmacists and prescribers, 62% are prescribers that are eligible for the program and 14% of eligible pharmacists have registered. Registrations are still

coming in on a daily basis. The Board of Pharmacy has received over 2,000 information requests - 28% from law enforcement.

Ms. Witkowski reported that the Board of Pharmacy doesn't have the capability pursuant to the law to check for doctor shopping. The only way these patients are identified is when the practitioner/pharmacist does a query. A report is due to the Governor and legislature at the end of this year.

Funding Update

Gary reported that ODCP received \$11,777,000 in Recovery Act funding for Byrne-JAG, a portion of this funding will be spent this fiscal year, and the rest will be used to supplement the regular Byrne-JAG funds over the next couple of years. ODCP received more grants for the Byrne-JAG funds this year than last, and the grant review process is being completed now. The awards will be announced on June 1.

The Federal FY'09 bill passed with an increased level of funding for Byrne-JAG. Our state appropriation was lost this year because of the budget shortfall and there is not going to be any funding available next year. The Federal FY'10 bill could be identified as a place to cut since so much money was put into the FY'09 bill.

ODCP will be receiving Congressionally Designated funding for a variety of projects, including; a pseudoephedrine tracking program, meth and other drug enforcement teams, interdiction grant to partner with local and state law enforcement, a Partnership for a Drug-Free Iowa grant to publicize the Iowa Substance Abuse Information Center (ISIA) and a Drug Endangered Children grant of \$200,000 to restructure the administration of that program.

Pseudoephedrine Tracking Update

Susie Sher reported on a pseudoephedrine tracking program that will be developed by ODCP in coordination with other agencies. This program is completely separate from the prescription drug monitoring program. In 2009, legislature passed a bill to implement a pseudoephedrine electronic tracking system to better monitor the amount of pseudoephedrine being sold.

ODCP received \$750,000 in designated funding to develop and implement the program. The first step will be to put together an advisory council as provided in the legislation.

DPAC Retreat

Becky Swift reported the DPAC Retreat will be held August 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Ms. Swift gave an overview of what has been done in the past. She asked Council members what they would like to have on the agenda for this year's retreat. Chris Wilson would like discussion on prescription drug abuse and comprehensive programs throughout the state. Jane Larkin said trends of each agency and their strategies on how to educate the public. Becky said that ODCP is currently working on a web based prescription and over-the-counter drug abuse information campaign for Iowans. By August, more will have been completed on the campaign allowing for a presentation at the retreat.

Becky said that there will be some strategic planning on the policies for next year. Katrina reported she would share initiatives regarding the Department of Corrections with the Council. Phyllis Blood said that it wouldn't hurt to touch on drugs and drug policies within the State.

Becky will get in touch with Katrina from Corrections regarding the agenda for the retreat. Part of the day will be spent talking about prescription drug. It was suggested that someone be invited to provide a somewhat in-depth overview of treatment at the November meeting. Becky asked Kathy Stone if she would be willing to do that.

John Garringer reported that he would like to invite legislators to get their feedback on what they see possible for the next session. Gary replied that is something we could do. John would like to invite the legislators in the afternoon of the retreat or at the November meeting. Council members were asked to let Becky know if they have any legislators in mind that they would like to invite.

Agency/Association Updates

Phyllis Blood reported that the Drug Court Evaluation will be completed in around 45 days. CJJ's research project in looking at all of the drug courts that were in operation in 2003 a significant amount of amount of data on recidivism has been collected. The research has been completed and they are writing the final report.

Chris Wilson reported that AC4C is meeting around the end of June. AC4C is working on legislative issues regarding youth possession and social hosts and they are trying to roll that into the State Underage Drinking Task Force. Their focus is local level versus state level.

Jane Larkin reported that her county is working on a paraphernalia ordinance and have contacted other counties to get samples of their ordinances. They are also working with the businesses regarding the sale of Salvia divinorum.

Kevin Frampton said that Narcotic Enforcement is seeing an increase in both mobile and residential labs. They are anxious for the pseudo tracking system to be in place.

Katrina Carter Larson reported that the DOC co-occurring disorders population is staggering and that they are working on gender responsive treatment.

John Garringer said that Linn County has had its second reading of a social host ordinance.

Dave Lorenzen reported that Bill Melville from Sioux City is the new leader of the Iowa Association of Chief of Police and Peace Officers.

Gary reported on the increase of meth labs in 2008 and ODCP will be implementing the pseudo tracking legislation this year. He asked Council members to share their ideas for legislation over the summer.

Gary said that a legislator approached him regarding the alcohol tax. He reported that the ground work needs to be laid so that when the time is right it can be pushed through.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 13 from 9:30 am – 3:30 pm. The location will be announced.

Adjourn

Phyllis Blood made a motion, Chris Wilson seconded, and the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Becky Bell